

6

ARTICLES TO BE CONSI- DERED OF BY THE Churchwardens and others within the Archdeaconry of *Derby*.

In the Visitation Archidiaconall of *Derby-*
shire, Anno Str. 1641

Let all things be done Decently and in Order.



Printed at London by *Tho. and Rich. Cotes*. 1641



Articles concerning the Clergy.

1. **A**re there in this Archdeaconry any wandring ministers, or pretenders to holy orders, that resorts to your Church, and there by begging disgrace that holy calling?

2 Are there any that keepe, or frequent drinking houses, and use unlawfull games.

3 Any that having taken holy orders forsake their vocation, and live secularly?

4 Doth any man in lower orders presume to do the duties of an higher office, and having no orders to do any publique duty?

5 Doe the Priests and Deacons carry themselves discreetly, gravely, exemplarily? do they make their families patterns to the people of God? doth the Deacon assist the Priest in divine Service, the administration of the Lords Supper, and distribution thereof? reade the holy Scriptures and Homilies to the Congregation, instruct the youth in the Catechisme, baptise and preach (onely if so farre allowed by the Bishop) discover the impotent and needy (where such provision is made) to the Curate that they may be Christianly relieved?

6 Doth your minister shew diligence in prayer, and that open, not being hindered by the study of Divinity? Is he studious in Gods holy word, & all other conducting studies? Is he a licensed preacher? then doth he (not lawfully hindered) preach every Sunday in his owne, or some neighboring Church? not being licensed, doth he procure monthly Sermons, and at other times read Homilies? doth your mini-

Articles.

ster in his Sermons confute all erronious and strange doctrines: exhort the whole and the sicke occasionally? and adavance love, peace and quietnesse in his owne charge and elsewhere? doth he read the booke of Canons as is required? hath he opposed any other preacher in his Sermons, or bin opposed by any? declare it and the manner how? doth he keepe proportionable Hospitality for the poore?

Prayer before
the Sermon.

Defence of the
abolishment of
Popish usurpa-
tions.

Doth your minister pray before every Sermon for the Kings most excellent Maiesty, with a full declaration of the Royall stile? doth hee foure times at least yearely defend the last abolition of all foraigne power within these realmes? dehorting from any obedience to such power? doth he maintaine that the Kings power within the realmes of England, Scotland and Ireland, is the highest under God, to whom all men, Inhabitants as well as natives doe owe loyalty of obedience afoze and aboue all other powers in earth by Gods law? doth he exhort to obedience unto his Sacred Maiesty, and all suboordinate Magistrates? doth he also pray for the Duenes Maiesty, Prince Charles his Grace, and all the royall progeny?

Impugners of
supremacy of
government,
&c.

8 Doth he or any in your parish impugne the regall supremacy in causes Ecclesiasticall? or the Ecclesiasticall government established by Archbishops, Bishops and the rest, as Antichristian and repugnant to Gods word? or the bookes of ordination and consecration? or affirme that the Church of England is no true Apostolicall Church? What our Common prayer book is of corrupt superstitious unlawful contents, and repugnant to the holy Scriptures? that the rites and Ceremonies established by law are wicked, superstitious, Antichristian; Not to be approb'd, subscribed, or used with a good conscience? Doth he pray for the Archbishops and Bishops before his Sermon? doth hee reade all the offices and formes in the booke of Common prayer set forth, as occasion shall require, respectfully and reverently, without addition or contraction, of his owne private phantasy? and in the ornaments commanded?

Bidding of
Holidaves, &c.

9 Doth he notice all Holidaves, and fastingdayes?
and

Articles.

and duely commend to the parish the pious remembrance
of the poore?

10 Is your minister (being required) diligent to baptize Baptisme.
sicke Infants in case of necessity as the booke directeth?
doth he admonish not to deferre baptisme beyond the next
Sunday or Holyday after birth, saving upon great and rea-
sonable cause shewed and approved by him? Is baptisme
ministred in private houses without great necessity? doth
any except a lawfull minister baptise? are Infants so bap-
tized brought to the Church, and all things examined and
done in that behalfe required, that the congregation may
be certified of the lawfull baptisme? Is publique baptisme
ministred in a full Congregation after the last lesson at
Mornning or Evening Prayer, as the Curate shall appoint?
doth the Minister beginne with that question whether the
Childe be baptized, or no? doth he after baptisme receive
the Child and signe it? are the Godfathers and Godmo-
thers Communicants? doth he command that the Child be
brought to Confirmation by them, when it hath learned, as
is expessed in the Rubricke? and doe the Godfathers and
Godmothers looke to their charge?

11 Doth your Minister or some other by his appoint- Catechizing.
ment diligently upon Sundayes and Holidayes halfe an
houre before Evening Prayer openly in the Church, in-
struct and examine so many Children of your Parish sent
unto him as the time will suffer and he shall thinke fit, in
some part of the Catechisme? and further observe his Ma-
iesties late directions in that behalfe? and when the Bishop
giveth notice of Confirmation, doth he bring or send in wri-
ting, the names of all fit to be Confirmed? and doth he ad-
mit any to the holy Communion, before they have well lear-
ned the Catechisme, and be confirmed?

12 Doth he celebrate the Sacrament of the blessed bo- Communion.
dy and blood of Christ so frequently in the yeare, that every
Householder may Communicate thrice in the yeare at least?
whereof the feast of Easter to be one?

13 If any Parishoner be a notorious evil libel, or in-
iurious

Articles.

iurious to his neighbour by word or deed, hath your Curate having knowledge thereof called such a one and aduertiz: d him not to presume to come to the Lords Table befoze, 1. Declaration of his true repentance, 2. Satisfaction given to the Congregation by his amendment, 3. And recompence to the wronged, or at least a purpose and profession so to doe? and where in his obseruation, malice and hatred hath reigned, hath he laboured mutuell reconciliation betwixt the parties, and admitted the penitent party onely to the Sacrament? and doth the Curate and Churchwardens provide the best elements at the charge of the Parish for that holy use? and doth the Curate take the Remainder to his owne use? and punctually governe his actions in this holy Sacrament by the rubricke of the Communion?

Marriages.

14. Are all banns of matrimony asked thræ severall times on Sundayes and Holydaies, in time of divine Service, and in presence of the people? and that in both Parishes if the parties so inhabit? and no marriage celebrated in that Case without certificate of the one Minister to the other? Is it begun in the body of the Church, and continued with all the solemnities in the Rubricke of that Office? is it done within the limited houres of 8. and 12. Doe the new married then receive the Holy Communion?

Churching.

15 Doth your Minister refuse to Church any women that have beene case delivered out of the perils in Childbirth, and doth he observe the forme in the Booke?

Communion.

16 Doth he in the beginning of Lent, publish the Communion, and according to the rubricke in due place, time and manner?

Visitation of the sicke.

17 Doth he, especially upon notice, diligently resort to the sicke, and doe his Spirituall Office according to the directions in that forme given? doth he exhort his charge in time of health to frequent participation of the Lords Supper, and principally in plague time? and doth he Minister the Sacrament to such as desire it in their sicknesse, and that according as he is directed? and have any, desirous of the Sacrament, dyed without it by his neglect? and doth he

ha

Articles.

he monish men and women to settle their estates in time of health, and to liberality to the poore?

18 Doth he bury the Dead according to that forme, *mex.* Buriall. ting the Corps and friends at the Church stile &c?

19 Is your Lecturer, being settled, a Licensed Preacher, *Lecturers.* well Salaried, and that duly payed, doth he read Divine Service with all due obseruation, and Administer both Sacraments twice in the yeare at least, In his owne person? and especially doth he so read on the Lecture day?

But if your Lecture be bestowed by the grabe Divines of the neighbourhood, doe you provide fitting entertainment for them when they come to Preach, respectfully, that they be not either charged for their Lobs, or preiudized in their health.

20 Are the Chaplaines of your Chappels, Vicars or Stipendaries of appropriate Churches well endowed, or stipended? the buildings sustained? hospitality kept for reliefe of the poore? or who is faulty? and hath your Curate competent allowance?

21 Doth your Rector or Vicar reside with you, unless for some great cause dispensed with, hath he being dignified with plurality, a sufficient Curate Preacher in the Church, where his abode is not so constant? and is the Chancell in all parts, and all the Church houses and buildings in good repaire?

22 Doth your Parson and Vicar keepe exact bookes of all his yearely receipts for the good of the Successor?

23 Doth your Minister notice the perambulation of the bounds according to Law and Custome, and follow the royal directions given in that case?

Of the Patron.

1 Hath the Patron of your Church presented his Clerk without suspicion or fame of any Simoniackall contract, direct, or indirect?

2 Is he zealous to his power to defend the Church and Incum,

Articles.

incumbent from the wrong and iniury of ill affected persons?

3 Doth he intimate any his Clerkes in utility to his Church, (except in the case of sicknesse or extream age) to the Bishop, that he in his wisdome may remedy the Church according to Law?

4 Hath your Church Patron living amongst you, all due respect from the Parson or Vicar? Is he in decay? hath he the honour of the chiefe seate in the Church, where he is Patron?

Churchwardens and Sidemen.

1 **A**re you duely chosen, and in Easter Weekes? and so of the other Officers? have all your Predecessors passed cleere and iust accounts of all Church goods and monies in the end of their severall yeares, and exhibited a bill in writing of all receipts and expences, and transmitted, or undertaken so to doe, all remaining summes of money into the hands of their successors in Office? are there any arerages, and upon whom?

2 Is the fabrick of the body of your Church in good repair in walles, roofe, pavement, windowes, gates, belfrey, bells frames, wheeles, &c. and also decently beautified, with all Canonically paintings, and choyce sentences? have you a seemely Table for the Lords Supper, placed according to Law? hath any presumed of private pleasure to remove it, who? and whether? have you a faire carpet, one or two Coverings of Damaske or Diaper, if your Parish be able, or other fine linnen? are they kept choicely, and cleane? one fine surplesse at least, made well, and kept cleane for dayly use, as need shall require?

3 Are the great Bible, the Service Bookes faire and good? kept clasped, or stringed after divine Service, and well laid up? have you the bookes of Martyrs, Erasmus Paraphrase, and the workes of Bishop Jewell, and are they shained in some convenient place? the Bookes of Homilies?

Articles.

lies? the homily of rebellion? the Articles and Canons? and are they safely kept for the use of the Parish?

4 Is your Chalice silver, and the cover thereof? not battered? kept cleane for all Communiones? Is your Font of Stone sound, beautifull? and well covered? have you a velvet cushion? light Pulpit, Pulpit cloth, reading Pew? are all the Seates in reasonable repaire, and unifoꝛmity? have you a lust inventoꝝy of all your Churches goods? and exhibit a Copy thereof, particularly describing what is faire, and good, old or in decay? what vessels have you to bring the Wine in, to the Lords bord? are they kept cleane scoured, and used onely in Gods Service? have you a Table for the discovery of lawfull or unlawfull marriages? is it hung up in a frame? have you a chest for the poꝛe? with so many lockes as is required? and all other chests, lockes, and keyes? if you have a vestry, is it kept in repaire and decency?

5 Have you severall books well bound for the Recording of the Christen and surnames of all persons and their parents, baptized in your Parish, all married or buried with their relations? and the Licencers of all strange Preachers in your Church? all these with the day of the moneth in the line, a decent margent, and a subscription in the bottome by the Minister and Churchwardens to every lease? are they fairely written, weekly? and carefully examined after? Are any bookes of Christnings, Weddings, Buriall growne old? Then signify it, that they may be transcribed, and not so much evidence lost as is endangered.

6 Are your Churchyards kept cleane, and well fenced, or closed, and by them that are bound?

7 Have you a Tertier of the Rectory, and Vicarage, Glebes, and Houses, and also of all lawfull customes? and if you have not, make one and bring it in subscribed by the Minister, your selves, and some of the chiefe Parishioners, and keepe a Copy by your selves.

8 Doe you keepe safely all such tertiers, bookes, rentals, bonds, wills, leases, accounts or any other muniment or evi-

Articles.

dence belonging to your Parish: with the assistance of the Minister. So that nothing be defaced, iniured or imber-reled?

9 Doe you, and did your predecessors vigilantly cause all Parishioners to frequent the common Prayers, Sermons, and Sacraments, and all other duties of a christian man in publique, in due time: with due continuance and reverence to the end? did they, and doe you le by one shilling weekly for absence according to Law? and is it converted to the use of the poore?

10 Have any out of corrupt affection smothered any publique and scandalous crimes, what were they, and who have done so in their Office?

11 Are your Overseers, Sides men, Clerke and others diligent in their Offices? and is the Clerkes wages rightly payed?

Schoolemasters

1 **H**ave you any free Schoolemasters and Wihers? any that teach otherwise openly, or privately? are they licenced, painfull, profitable? as well in nurtring youth in good manners as learning, sound Protestants, good libers frequenters of the Church for Service and Sacraments? bzing they their Scholiers with them (having borders) or leave they any behinde at their houses, and that usually?

2 Are there any that teach privately in Recusants houses, or Recusants children in their owne? name them all.

3 Is the Curate contented if any besides himselfe doe teach Schoole?

4 Doth your Schoolemaster teach Passer Lillies Grammer and other warranted Authours? And for grounds of Religion, the Greeke and Latine Catechismes in that respect provided, according to the childrens severall capacities?

5 Are any houses, Schoole-lands, or rents derayed, concealed, misemployed, or diverted to other uses, how, and by whom

Articles.

Whom, Is the number of your Feoffees full? and doe they diligently performe their trust? Is the Schoolehouse in good repaire within and without, or in what convenient place are your childezen taught?

Parishioners.

I Doe they live in the feare of God, exercising all piety, and charity? do they observe holypayes and fasting-daves, without servile labours, buying, or selling in Church time, do they continue the perambulations in Ember week? doe they without wandring abroad, keepe to their owne Church and chappell encouraging their Minister, and giving a good example, and doe they abide there untill the end?

2 Are there any that disallow and seporate from your Prayers and resort to sermons only, or comply in all things except the Sacrament, and what are their names? are Wednesdaves and Frydaves, and holiday Ceases observed for devotion?

3 Doe every Parishioner receive thrice yearly, and is Caster one time? and doe all above 16. yeares old receive, and do all kneele, and use other Canonically reverences, especially in the holy Sacrament?

4 Doe Masters, Dames, Parents, cause their servants and childezen to submit obediently to catechizing, till that be well learned which is appointed?

5 Doth every Parishioner living, or being landed with, in the Parish, pay his reasonable Tunes and tares, to Church and Chappell? and the poore and who refuseth?

6 Doth every Parishioner make a cleare reckoning yearly at Caster, with the Parson, Vicar, or their Deputy, and also pay Clerkes wages?

7 Doe Communicants signifie their names to the Minister over night, or before or after morning Prayer.

8 Are Parents carefull to baptize their childezen on the next Sunday or Holyday after birth, and give the Minister

Articles.

canonicall notice, that he may appoint accordingly? and are the Godfathers, Godmothers, people and children ready at the Font at the time appointed.

9 Doth the Parish stay at the Church stile untill the Minister can meet the Coarse?

10 Doe women resort to Church for thanksgiving after Childbirth? doe they kneele nere the holy table, and doe they offer then the accustomed offerings, and on Communion dayes, Communicate?

11 Doe the Parishioners on the first day of Lent, come to the Communion?

12 Are there any unlawfull meetings for common actions of Religion as is pretended, in any place but the Church or Chappell?

13 Are there any that have dyed intestate? doth any Ex-ecutor neglect to prove the Will, pay legacies, &c. or any administrator fault in their administrations?

14 Are there any that disturbe the Minister and godly peoples attentions in time of Gods service by quarrells for seates or such like? scozners, prattlers, murmurers, sleepe in Church? loyterers in nere high wayes houses, especially Alehouses, Church yard, or Church porch: what their names that accustom to do so?

15 Are there any that prophane the Christian Sabbath or Lords day, and holy dayes appointed, by worldly affaires, or vicious actions: any that prophane Churches or Church yards, with brawling, fighting, secular pleas, and Courts, eating, drinking, playes, or other unfit actions or behavior?

16 Are there any Churches or Chappels where divine service hath been formerly used let fall: and by whose default or any Church lands, goods, plate, bells, clocks, stocks of money and implements, &c. sacrilegiously, or unjustly taken away, concealed and misemployed?

17 Have any at any time laid violent hands upon your Minister, or defamed him, or used any irreverent language towards him?

18 Are there any noted for perjury, blasphemy, baine and idle swearing; and who, and of what condition?

Articles.

19 Any, any wayes inconfornable; and refractary to his Maesties Ecclesiasticall Lawes established by high Court of Parliament? especially Recusants, and Separatists, and who are they?

20 Have any ben married by other Minister or some then the Church of England doth allow? or so baptized? any children kept unbaptized by the space of a moneth, or longer? any children conveyed beyond the seas, for Popish breeding? any buried otherwise than the statute hath commanded, not being excommunicate with the great excommunication?

21 Do recusants refuse to submit to godly conference, have they any busie seducers about them, as Jesuites, Seminaries &c. declare the whole matter, and the names of all parties as also all misleaders of his Maesties good subjects in any other by wayes?

22 Are there any that maintaine any doctrines against the Catholique Faith, in obstinate and hereticall manner: any false away from the faith, to popish faction, or from all religion, any that use witchcraft? sorcery, charmes, unlawfull incantations in Latine, upon man or beast: or suspected so to doe, cunning men or women, or resorters to them? or any other addicted to superstitious observations, & spreaders of the same?

23 Have any in your Parish (not hitherto questioned) lived in any kind of incontinency, as incest, adultery, fornication? any bawdes, ayders, instruments entertainers of unchaste persons: have any strangers delivred in your Parish ben after Churched, and departed without pennance, who are they? and who hath bene affirmed or suspected to be the Father of the Child?

24 Are there any supposed not to be truly married, that converse as man and wife? Any having or deeming to have two or more wives or husbands, both any man or woman married like apart, without a lawfull sentence of divorce: hath either party during the others life married again? have any persons married to one party bene precontracted to another, and what clandestine marriages have ben in your Church made without consent of parents, guardians, publication of banns or licences, and no satisfaction rendered to the Church?

25 Are

Articles,

25 Are there any in your Parish that sow discord and debate amongst neighbours, man and wife, &c. any ribalds, malicious persons, scolds, slanderers, defamers, depravers of the lyturgy, in word, wytyng, or otherwise?

26 Have you any Almeshouses and Hospitals? and whether of the Kings, or other pious benefactors foundation, are the buildyngs in good repaire, the poyze iustly dealt with, the feoffees or Overseers carefull, and entyrc in their number, and who is the visitor (as you have knowne and heard) thereof?

Excommunicate Persons.

I VVhat persons in your Parish, and for what causes, stand excommunicate? neither desyring, nor endeavouring absolution? and how long have they stood so? are such denounced in your Church every syre moneths?

2 Have any bene admitted to the rights and pryviledges of the Church without repentance, and absolution?

3 Hath the sentence of excommunication bene delayed or neglected to be disbursed, longer than the next Sunday or Holiday after the receipt?

4 Are there any that favour and cherishe such persons as (being so cut off) care not to be restozed, nor to satisfy the Church?

Apparitors.

I Can your Apparitors read and wytte competently?

2 Is there any excesse in their number? and moze then former times have knowne?

3 Doe they dispatch their mandates in their owne persons faithfully, and not by others?

4 Doe they behave themselves as promotores or inforimers, beryng some wryngfully, extolling others for lucre sake? and know you any that have so prevented the repentance of delinquents, and the Churches satisfaction?

5 Doth any of them exact moze or greater fees than the fable ratified doth allow?

FINIS.

